

JAKE'S TREE FORT

"Dad, I want to build a fort in the tree on the patio," said Jake. He was talking to the right [terror/ person/ leave] because Jake's father was a carpenter [if/ by/ go] trade and was well known around [nod/ put/ the] city for the quality of his [poll/ sand/ work]. "Jake," he replied, "I don't know [how/ tab/ for] we can build a fort out [there/ went/ know] because there is not much room."

Jake [key/ plum/ had] to agree with his father. They [lived/ beef/ dent] in the middle of the city [new/ in/ cot] an apartment on the twelfth floor [sass/ of/ how] the building, and all they had [dew/ pain/ for] outside space was a small patio [with/ bed/ can] a seven-foot oak tree that Mom [or/ had/ fast] transplanted. "Still, Dad, I think that if [as/ eat/ we] put our two genius minds together, [we/ lad/ go] can come up with a plan [fans/ that/ king] would work," said Jake. His father laughed [see/ at/ bog] his son's flattery and agreed to [begin/ time/ guys] working on the blueprints for a [miss/ book/ tree] fort as soon as he finished another [rate/ job/ dogs].

Later that week, Dad brought home [ever/ nails/ your], a saw, and several sheets of [pillow/ means/ sturdy] plywood. He showed his blueprints to Jake [blow/ quit/ and] they began to work. Dad showed Jake [the/ need/ down] tricks of the trade, and soon Jake [was/ and/ hit] cutting the pieces of wood like [of/ go/ a] master craftsman. Soon it was time [hot/ die/ to] assemble the

fort, and Dad and Jake [nailed/ stupid/ right] the wood in place around the [tree/ cop/ bell]. The fort was four feet wide, [yes/ who/ five] feet high, and three feet above [but/ the/ ship] ground. "I just hope the tree [art/ who/ is] sturdy enough to hold you and [your/ note/ were] friends," said Dad.

Then Jake decided [only/ shell/ that] the fort needed to be painted [none/ brown/ were] and green. "That way it will [coy/ be/ man] camouflaged from any girls that might [much/ scare/ want] to get in. LaToya asked me whether [wag/ few/ she] could bring over her friends, [test/ but/ war] I said no girls are allowed [in/ as/ we] here," said Jake to his father. "That's [stir/ fine/ vest] because it is your tree fort, [you/ raft/ mind] helped build it, and you can [make/ deal/ easy] the rules. I will try [be/ to/ cab] build something else for your sister [home/ deal/ and] her friends," said Dad.

The next [two/ pit/ on] days were spent painting the tree [fort/ eight/ honey] and moving important things into it [form/ like/ trip] comic books and food. Jake was thrilled [with/ deck/ cook] their accomplishment. "Thank you so much [wild/ hope/ for] helping me build this, Dad. I [file/ rest/ will] never forget it. I'm going to [pest/ sleep/ were] in the fort every single night!," [miss/ dew/ said] Jake. "That sounds like fun, but [on/ has/ be] sure to come in when it [clap/ snows/ deed]," joked Dad.